



CMA PROGRESS AT A GLANCE

as of June 24, 2008:

- **Anniston Chemical Activity, Ala.,** the VX-filled 155mm projectile demilitarization campaign at Anniston Chemical Agent Disposal Facility concluded in late May. Since then, the Anniston team has begun mechanical changes to process VX M23 landmines, scheduled to begin this month. Team Anniston has learned valuable lessons from the Pine Bluff team, which has helped to streamline the process while continuing to maintain safety, environmental compliance and site security.
- **Deseret Chemical Depot, Utah,** Tooele Chemical Agent Disposal Facility has safely disposed of 2,271 mustard agent-filled ton containers and 54,651 mustard agent-filled 155mm projectiles. Mustard operations began in August 2006.
- **Newport Chemical Depot, Ind.,** Newport Chemical Agent Disposal Facility's work force has safely neutralized approximately 95 percent of the chemical agent VX stored at Newport Chemical Depot. The U.S. has received credit for destroying 2,224,468 pounds of VX under the Chemical Weapons Convention.
- **Pine Bluff Arsenal, Ark.,** Pine Bluff Chemical Agent Disposal Facility (PBCDF) processed the final VX M23 landmine from Pine Bluff Arsenal (PBA) on June 20. The VX drained from the landmine was destroyed the same day. This marks disposal of the entire PBA stockpile of chemical landmines and VX nerve agent. PBCDF is preparing for its final disposal campaign, HD/HT mustard agent bulk storage containers.
- **Umatilla Chemical Depot, Ore.,** Umatilla Chemical Agent Disposal Facility (UMCDF) is ready to resume processing of secondary waste since the Oregon Environmental Quality Commission (EQC) agreed at its June 19 meeting that incineration of agent-contaminated waste in the Metal Parts Furnace and Deactivation Furnace System represents the best available technology. The EQC also approved a state recommendation to accept the UMCDF post trial burn risk assessment, which concluded that plant operations are safe for human health and the environment.
- **Non-Stockpile Chemical Materiel Project's** Ton Container Decontamination Facility at PBA, continues to process ton containers using the thermal decontamination system and has processed 910 containers. The Pine Bluff Explosive Destruction System has destroyed more than 90.8 percent of the recovered chemical warfare materiel stored at PBA.

ORMOND REASSIGNED TO FORT LEAVENWORTH

The U.S. Army Chemical Materials Agency (CMA) once again finds itself looking toward the future and another leadership change.

On May 22, Dale Ormond, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army for the Elimination of Chemical Weapons (DASA-ECW), announced that he was being reassigned as the Deputy to the Commander of the Combined Arms Center under the U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command at Fort Leavenworth, Kan.

Ormond made this news public as he addressed the 11th Annual International Chemical Weapon Demilitarisation (CWD) Conference in Interlaken, Switzerland, where he gave the keynote address. After briefing the attendees on the progress of the U.S. demilitarization effort, including an overview of both stockpile and non-stockpile national, safety and Chemical Weapons Convention (CWC) milestones, Ormond opened the floor to general questions. Having none, he turned back to the podium and, in distinctive Ormond style, casually finished off the session with the "one more thing" item – his reassignment and departure from the program.

"This is not a shock nor should it be interpreted as anything more," Ormond said. "The Army likes to move its Senior Executive Service members around every four to five years and such a policy makes this move for me about right on time."

"I have enjoyed fully my time with the chem. demil. program – from my early days as the Tooele Site Project Manager, to my time at the Pentagon, to my time with the folks up at Edgewood and while visiting all the sites. It was time well spent in conduct of an extremely important mission."

He said, "Programs like the CWD allow us the opportunity to engage other countries in both a work and a social setting and are key and beneficial to advancing the course of weapons recovery and disposal throughout the world."

Ormond acknowledged that the prize – the disposal of all U.S. chemical weapons – was in sight. However, the path forward included challenges of addressing ongoing environmental change and secondary waste, working with various stakeholders to identify facility closure needs, meeting CWC requirements and addressing ongoing technology challenges. Despite these

challenges, he envisions continued success to be a trademark of the overall program.

"Our work force – at each of the sites, headquarters and the Pentagon – should be given great credit and take great pride in the fact that they have played vital roles in making safety and continued program success a key to what is undeniably a trend-setting program with international ramifications.

"I thank the people involved in the U.S. effort for their great work, and I challenge them to maintain the continued efficient disposal efforts to meet our goals and obligations while ensuring the safety of our work force, our public and our environment."

Ormond's last day of work at the Pentagon was June 20.

Ormond, a graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy and former submariner, looks forward to a world of new and complex challenges. He said he enters his new role with eyes wide open.

"If you look at my résumé and my previous experience, I think you'd be hard pressed to draw in any way, shape or form, the course my career has taken," Ormond said. "Nothing in the past suggested, at that time, that chemical weapons disposal was in the immediate future. Same could be said for this one. But I intend to address these new challenges as I have addressed past challenges."

Ormond is already expecting a challenge, foreseeing the first weekend in December at Fort Leavenworth as being "brutal."

"I'm already getting calls," Ormond said. "Most of the folks down there seem to be Army colonels and the like and seem to have all graduated from a certain military academy a little north of my alma mater. Before we go out there, I may have to go down to Annapolis, pick up some paraphernalia." For his children, "get the girls some cheerleading outfits. Maybe get Phillip his own little set of dress whites. I expect to be severely outnumbered come the Army-Navy game. Yes, it could be brutal."

Not a lot of sailors make port in Kansas, or Utah, for that matter. Success is sure to follow.

Best wishes.



CMA PARTICIPATES IN INTERNATIONAL CHEMICAL WEAPONS DISPOSAL CONFERENCE

On May 19-22, 2008, representatives from the U.S. Army Chemical Materials Agency (CMA) took part in the 11th Annual International Chemical Weapon Demilitarisation (CWD) Conference in Interlaken, Switzerland. They were joined by associates from other U.S. government agencies, other countries and corporate organizations from around the world.

The conference promotes cooperation between governments, organizations, industry, non-governmental organizations and world research communities, allowing these groups to address issues associated with chemical weapons disposal and focus on potential technical and practical solutions.

CMA was well-represented at the conference with site and headquarters staff attending and briefing. Speaking from CMA were Tim Garrett, Anniston Chemical Agent Disposal Facility; Leonard Rowe, Non-Stockpile Chemical Materiel Project; and Greg Mahall, CMA Public Affairs. Garrett presented "Challenges Associated with Secondary Waste Disposal at Anniston Army Depot" and "Challenges Associated with Nerve Agent Projectile Destruction at Anniston Army Depot." Rowe presented "Destruction of the Former VX Production Facility."

Other presenters related to CMA and its weapons disposal mission included Kevin Flamm, Program Manager Assembled Chemical Weapons Alternatives (ACWA); Forrest Church, SAIC; Tim Blades, Edgewood Chemical Biological Center; and Dale Ormond, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army for the Elimination

of Chemical Weapons. Flamm chaired lessons learned discussions and presented on the ACWA program.

Church chaired the hazardous waste management discussion and Blades chaired the technical systems discussions. Ormond gave the keynote address on the U.S. path ahead.

Mahall briefed conference attendees on CMA's lessons learned in the "Successful Shipment and Destruction of Nerve Agent VX Neutralization Waste Water" from Newport, Ind., to Veolia Environmental Services in Port Arthur, Texas. This was an opportunity for CMA Public Affairs to share the expertise and experience in dealing with the successful shipment of Newport-related VX hydrolysate in interstate shipments in the face of vocal opposition.

"It was a great opportunity to communicate with our international stakeholders on how CMA has overcome some challenging situations over the past year," Mahall said. "We received positive feedback and acknowledged great support from those stakeholders. Discussions on the public affairs side of this issue could have gone on for some time, but the bottom line was that the involvement and feedback were extremely beneficial, challenging, and extremely worthwhile."

CMA remains committed to keeping stakeholders informed of all missions and milestones. By sharing knowledge and expertise at this year's CWD conference, CMA reaffirmed its commitment to completing the mission safely and on schedule.

LAST VX PROJECTILE PROCESSED AT ANCDF

On May 5, 2008, the employees at Anniston Chemical Activity (ANCA), Anniston Army Depot, Ala., safely delivered the 6,000th Enhanced On-Site Container (EONC) to the Anniston Chemical Agent Disposal Facility (ANCDF). The tally began in August 2003 when the first GB-filled M55 rockets were shipped to ANCDF in support of initial chemical munitions disposal operations.

To date, ANCA employees have made 6,095 safe trips between the chemical munitions storage area and ANCDF, moving 317,671 GB and VX nerve agent-filled rockets and artillery shells.

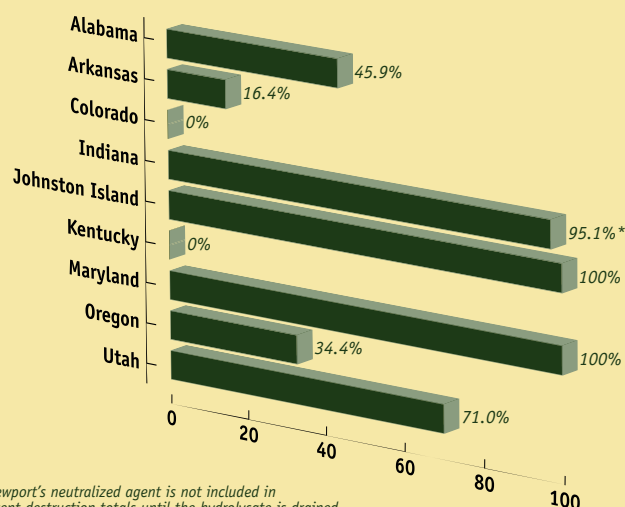
"This is another significant milestone for our entire work force that includes the ANCA employees who store the munitions and safely move them, as well as the employees at the ANCDF who safely demilitarize them," said Tim Garrett, ANCDF site project manager.

Munitions deliveries are now on hold. The last VX-filled 155mm artillery shell was safely processed at ANCDF on May 24, 2008, and ANCDF employees are in a maintenance and changeover phase in preparation for the third and final VX campaign, M23 landmines.

"We expect all of the changeover work to be completed in about two months. Landmine disposal operations will take about a year to finish," Garrett said. "This will close out all VX disposal operations at the ANCDF."

Mustard agent-filled weapons demilitarization operations will wrap up the chemical munitions disposal mission at Anniston in 2013 or sooner.

CMA - CREATING A SAFER TOMORROW



53.1%

OF U.S. CHEMICAL AGENT STOCKPILE DESTROYED

(as of June 22, measured by original agent tonnage since entry into force - April 29, 1997)

* Newport's neutralized agent is not included in agent destruction totals until the hydrolysate is drained from its transportation containers at Veolia Environmental Services.



Michael E. Duke, the Anniston Chemical Activity employee who drove the last load of VX-filled artillery shells from the storage igloo to the Anniston Chemical Agent Disposal Facility for disposal, removes the "VX" sign from his trailer after the Enhanced On-Site Container with the munitions was delivered to the incinerator facility. (U.S. Army photo by M.B. Abrams)